GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TEXTILES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2548
ANSWERED ON:10.03.2000
CONDITION OF HANDLOOM WEAVERS
KAILASHO DEVI

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the condition of handloom weavers has deteriorated due to competition from powerloom sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR TEXTILES

(SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN)

(a)&(b) The handloom weaver has faced stiff competition from powerloom sector due to inherent cost disadvantage of handloom products. The cost of production of the powerloom and mill sectors is much less and this has affected the handloom weaver producing items similar to those being produced by powerloom and mill sectors.

(c) In order to protect the interest of handloom weaver from this stiff competition, Government has promulgated Handlooms (Reservation of Articles for Production) Act, 1985 apart from other measures for product development. Under the Handloom Reservation Order dated 26.7.1996 11 textile articles, at present, are reserved for exclusive production on handlooms.